



***The United States Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein  
Edward T. McMullen, Jr.,***

***in cooperation with***

***Venturelab, SelectUSA, and ENRICH in the USA,***

***invites you to participate in a webinar  
with U.S. investors, featuring ten promising Swiss startups  
on Wednesday, June 10, 2020, from 10 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. EST / 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. CET***

Venturelab, SelectUSA, and ENRICH in the USA invite you to participate in an invitation-only virtual pitching event featuring 10 of Switzerland's most promising early-stage life science startups. The participating startups went through a rigorous and competitive process to be selected as "Venture Leaders 2020," the Swiss National Startup Team. The cohort is comprised of Seed/Series A investment stage companies, offering you the exclusive opportunity to get to know the founders firsthand during their three-minute investor pitches and ask your most pressing questions during the Q&A after each pitch. Subsequently, the team plans to fly to the United States for a one-week roadshow in November to accelerate their expansion into the U.S. market, build their network, and connect with entrepreneur and investor ecosystems in the United States.

#### **Featured "Venture Leaders 2020" Startups:**

**Adiposs** is developing a breakthrough medical imaging product, which can detect early cachexia with a fast, pain-free, highly specific, and cost-effective CT medical scan available in every hospital worldwide. Cachexia, a fatal body wasting syndrome, affects one in two cancer patients and many patients with chronic diseases. Despite its high prevalence, it remains vastly underdiagnosed with dramatic consequences for the patients, doctors, and healthcare systems.

**Annaida Technologies SA** has developed a groundbreaking device that performs microscopic Nuclear Magnetic Resonance ("µNMR") at a scale 10-fold better than existing technologies, enabling non-invasive chemical analysis at the scale of a single human embryo. µNMR opens new global markets in assisted reproductive technology ("ART"), enabling non-invasive embryo viability screening for in vitro fertilization ("IVF"), as well as in biochemical research.

**Araris Biotech AG** is a spin-off company from the Paul Scherrer Institute (PSI) and ETH Zurich focusing on the commercialization of a novel antibody-drug conjugate (ADC)-linker platform that allows for the attachment of any payload to 'off-the-shelf' antibodies without the need of prior antibody engineering. The resulting ADCs have a well-defined drug-to-antibody ratio, are stable and monomeric, and contribute to the high efficacy and low level of toxicity observed so far.

**Ariadne-Service GmbH's** multidisciplinary team of neuroscientists and machine-learning experts turns terabytes of histopathological microscopy data of cell cultures and neural tissue into quantitative results. The cutting-edge image processing technology is scalable in throughput and consistent in quality. LMtrace®, a versatile biomarker for neurological diseases will reduce the failure rates for drug discovery programs for brain diseases tremendously.

**EraCal Therapeutics Ltd.** develops a novel anti-obesity drug Era-107 with superior efficacy and safety compared to the standard of care in three vertebrate species – zebrafish, mice, and rats. EraCal, a spin-off from Harvard University and the University of Zurich, holds a worldwide exclusive license for the new chemical entity (patent filed). An ambitious team with world-class advisors drives the development of Era-107, targeting first-in-human studies in Q4/2021.

**KetoSwiss AG (KS)** has developed a novel migraine preventative. Its active compound is an endogenous metabolite; a ketone body (KB), which is used by the brain as an alternative fuel to glucose, when glucose utilization or transport is limited. KBs are produced by the liver during fasting/carb restriction but have a short half-life. KS can achieve infusion-like therapeutic ketosis with a single neutral-tasting oral dose. 1 percent of migraineurs in United States and the European Union represent a market potential of USD 1.8b.

**LifeMatrix** develops next-generation biomimetic implants for cardiovascular indications, which have the capacity to grow and regenerate with the patient. LifeMatrix is the spin-off company of the LifeMatrix project and technology from Wyss Zurich (University of Zurich/ETH Zurich). Within the Wyss Zurich, LifeMatrix has completed the preclinical validation for the LifeMatrix Vascular Graft and is now preparing for a first human clinical trial at University Children's Hospital Zurich.

**Neurosoft Bioelectronics:** Current neural implants that can record or stimulate the brain, spinal cord, or peripheral nerves to monitor or treat patients suffering from neurological disorders are too stiff compared to the soft tissues of the body, which limits benefits for patients. We have developed a new generation of soft and conformable implantable electrodes that seamlessly interface with the nervous tissues and can improve clinical outcomes for patients.

**Stimit AG:** During mechanical ventilation, natural lung function is suppressed, and the diaphragm becomes inactive and weak. Often patients adapt to—and sometimes become dependent on—mechanical ventilation, which requires weaning. The therapy and non-invasive medical device maintain breathing muscle function during ventilation, minimizing life-threatening damage to the lungs from mechanical ventilation and shortening its duration.

**Terapet SA:** Founded by two physicists from the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) and a leading radio-oncologist from the University Hospital Geneva, Terapet SA offers an innovative solution for a safer, more precise, and efficient proton therapy for cancer treatment. The medical device (EU patented and 100 percent owned by Terapet SA, combined with state-of-the-art CERN technologies) enables medical doctors for the first time to monitor the delivered proton dose inside patients during cancer treatment: in vivo, non-invasive, in 3D, and in real-time.

To RSVP, kindly respond by June 1 to Mr. Sandor Galambos, U.S. Embassy Bern,  
at [galambos@state.gov](mailto:galambos@state.gov) or +41 79 279 9788

You will receive the webinar link and further information about the platform upon registration.



# Venture Leaders Life Sciences 2020



**Adiposs**  
Andrej Babic

**Annaida Technologies**  
Kyle Rodriguez

**Araris Biotech**  
Philipp Spycher

**Ariadne.ai**  
Adrian Wanner

**EraCal Therapeutics**  
Josua Jordi



**KetoSwiss**  
Elena Gross



**LifeMatrix Technologies**  
Jason Schense



**Neurosoft Bioelectronics**  
Nicolas Vachicouras



**STIMIT**  
Ronja Bruhn



**TERAPET**  
Christina Vallgreen



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